Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

1.9
EC7S
TVS

1.9
EC752F
TVS
Cop. 2

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Economic
Research
Service

TVS-232
May 1984

Vegetable

Outlook and Situation Report

Mexican winter vegetable exports soar after freeze, page 2

Contents

Fresh Vegetables 2
Processed Vegetables 7
Potatoes 9
Sweetpotatoes 10
Mushrooms 10
Pulses 11

List of Tables 12

Situation Coordinators
John M. Love (202) 447-7290
Barbara J. Peacock (202) 447-8666

Statistical Assistant
Barbara Johnson (202) 447-7290

Electronic Word Processing
Rhodia D. Ewell

National Economics Division
Economic Research Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board. Summary released April 27, 1984. The next summary of the **Vegetable Outlook and Situation** is scheduled for release on July 30, 1984. Summaries of Outlook and Situation reports are available on several electronic information systems. For details, call (402) 472-1892; (301) 588-1572; or (301) 982-6500. Full reports, including tables, are provided by the system on (402) 472-1892.

The **Vegetable Outlook and Situation** is published in January, April, July, and October. Annual subscription: $8 U.S., $10 foreign. Order from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Make checks payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

Current subscribers will receive renewal notices from the Government Printing Office approximately 90 days before their subscriptions expire. Notices will be sent ONLY ONCE and should be returned promptly to ensure uninterrupted service.

Summary

The prospective spring 1984 harvest acreage in the major producing States is 6 percent greater than a year earlier for fresh-market broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, lettuce, and tomatoes. The prospective harvest acreage for processing vegetables is 7 percent greater than a year earlier, based on processors' contract intentions for snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, and tomatoes. If the weather is favorable and yields are normal, vegetable growers will produce ample supplies for fresh and processing markets.

Damage from the December 1983 Florida/Texas freeze caused an immediate surge in prices for most fresh-market winter vegetables. Mexico, at the same time, boosted exports to relieve temporary tight supplies in the United States. The Mexican share of the total winter vegetable supply is expected to grow 3 to 5 percentage points by the end of the 1983/84 season. Florida is expected to finish the winter vegetable season with near-record production of fresh-market tomatoes. The total seasonal supply of winter/spring vegetables is expected to exceed last year's.

The January-February surge in prices for fresh vegetables was followed by a March slump, as harvests of replanted acreage in Florida and Texas coincided with initial harvests in other States. During March and April, favorable weather conditions for crop growth and harvest in western Arizona, southern California, and Florida led to ample supplies of lettuce and tomatoes. Second-quarter 1984 retail prices for fresh vegetables are expected to be unchanged from a year earlier, following a first-quarter increase of 30 percent.

First-quarter 1984 consumer prices for processed vegetables were 5 percent above a year earlier because of smaller canned and frozen stocks. The problem for processors during the second quarter will be distribution of remaining stocks. With higher interest rates and increased acreage intentions on the horizon, processed-vegetable suppliers may take the opportunity to further liquidate their inventories. In this event, prices for processed vegetables will not rise appreciably in the early weeks of the second quarter.

Grower, wholesale, and retail prices for potatoes were all sharply above last year, with spring potato production up 26 percent and sharp acreage gains expected for the fall. Grower returns for sweetpotatoes are also running well ahead of last year, but only slight acreage increases are expected for 1983/84.

Pennsylvania mushroom prices show signs of a softened market caused by the prospect of increased imports. Canned mushroom imports could be 13 percent more in 1983/84 than in 1982/83.

Pulse exports continue to stagnate. Stocks of most dry edible beans are tight, pushing grower prices up $8 to $10 above first-quarter 1983. Acreage forecasts show dry bean plantings to be 27 percent more than a year earlier.

FRESH VEGETABLES

The Past and Present

Freeze Affects Vegetable Supplies

Winter vegetable production in Florida and Texas was dealt a severe blow in late December 1983, when temperatures dipped to freezing, causing extensive damage to major winter vegetables such as bell peppers, squash, eggplant, and tomatoes. Cabbage yields in Florida were especially severely damaged. However, imported vegetables from Mexico largely compensated for reduced supplies from Florida and Texas, resulting in total shipments during January-March 1984 nearly equal to those of a year earlier (table 1).

The freeze included these additional effects:

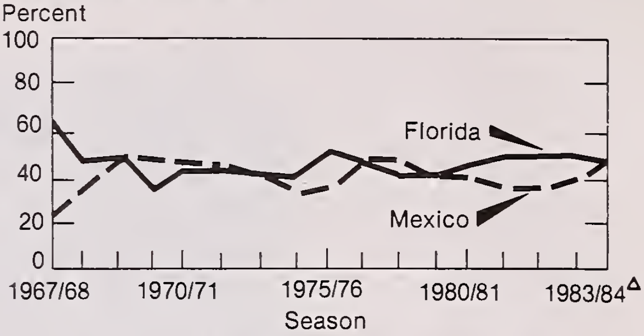
- The total shipments of six major winter vegetables (snap beans, cucumbers, eggplant, bell peppers, squash, tomatoes) during January and February were 4 percent higher than a year earlier.
- Florida shipments were down 33 percent, but Mexican were up 49 percent, increasing Mexico's share of total supply compared with the same period last year. Mexico significantly increased its share for the second consecutive year (figure 1).
- Florida and Mexico had equal shipments of the six major winter vegetables by the last week of December 1983 (figure 2), 3 weeks earlier than in 1982/83 (figure 3). Through January and February 1984, the gap in market shares widened, until, by March 1984, the United States was importing 80 percent of its major winter vegetables from Mexico.
- Florida's tomato supplies were 36 percent lower during January and February than a year earlier. U.S. imports of Mexican tomatoes were 68 percent higher during the same period. The total tomato supply was higher during January-February 1984 than a year earlier.
- Total U.S. imports of Mexican vegetables in 1983/84 may be 50 percent greater than in 1982/83 and will continue a recent trend of annual increases (figure 4).

Court Rules Mexico Not Dumping

The U.S. Court of International Trade reaffirmed the March 1980 U.S. Commerce Department decision that between November 1, 1977, and April 30, 1978, Mexico was not selling "certain vegetables" at less than fair value in the U.S. market. The ruling represents the most recent development resulting from an antidumping petition filed with the U.S. Treasury Department in September 1978 by three Florida vegetable grower organizations. The antidumping suit alleged that Mexican growers sold their vegetables in the U.S. market at "less than fair value," contrary to the U.S. law. The Treasury Department made a tentative determination in November 1979, ruling in favor of Mexican growers. The case was moved to the Commerce Department in June 1980 when antidumping law administration was transferred to that department. The Commerce Department issued a final determination in November 1980. Again the ruling was in favor of the Mexican growers. The Florida growers then appealed the case before the U.S. Court of International Trade, resulting in the present ruling. The winter vegetables mentioned in the case were tomatoes, bell peppers, cucumbers, squash, and eggplant.

Figure 1

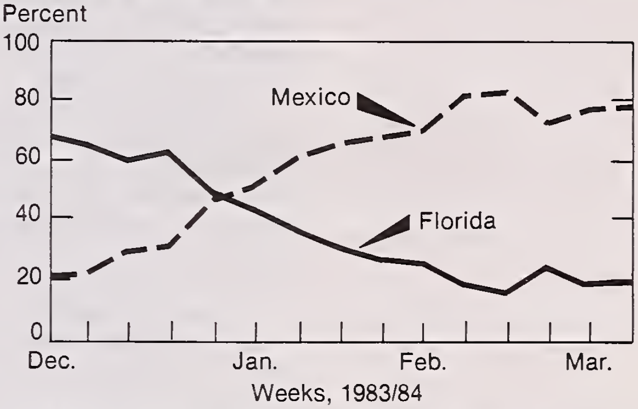
Florida and Mexico: Market Shares of Winter Vegetable Shipments*



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, Weekly Shipments and Arrivals.
*Snapbeans, cucumbers, eggplant, bell peppers, squash, tomatoes, and cherry tomatoes.
△Unofficial Economic Research Service estimate.

Figure 2

Florida and Mexico: Market Shares of Winter Vegetable Shipments*



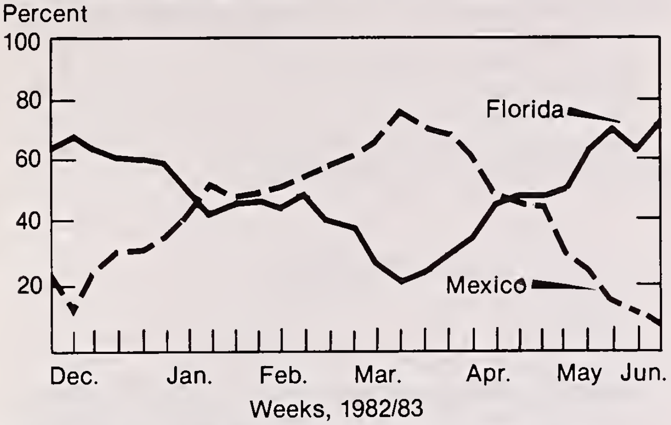
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, Weekly Shipments and Arrivals.
*Snapbeans, cucumbers, eggplant, bell peppers, squash, tomatoes, and cherry tomatoes.

Present Competitive Situation

Mexico's growers are now in a strong competitive position relative to Florida's producers, in large part, because of a weakened Mexican peso and the 1983 freeze. Florida and Mexico jointly supply 80 to 90 percent of the six major winter vegetables. During the period from 1977 to 1982, Florida expanded its share of the market for these six vegetables from 42 to 51 percent while Mexico's share declined from 45 to 35 percent. These changes in market share were, in large part, due to economic policies of the Mexican government, resulting in an overvalued exchange rate, which was like an export tax. The Mexican government purchased large amounts of its own

Figure 3

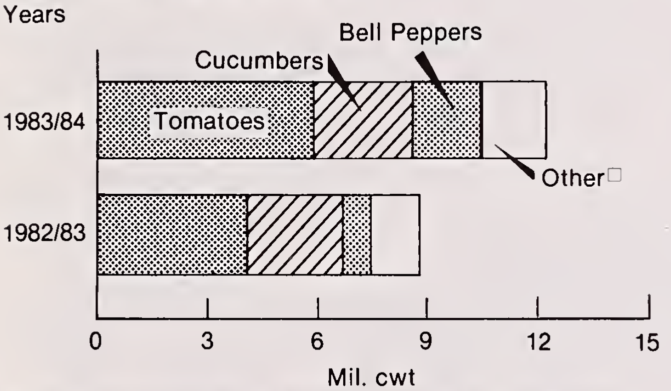
Florida and Mexico: Market Shares of Winter Vegetable Shipments*



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Fresh Fruits and Vegetables; Weekly Shipments and Arrivals.
*Snap beans, cucumbers, eggplant, bell peppers, squash, tomatoes, and cherry tomatoes.

Figure 4

Mexican Vegetable Imports*



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service, Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, Weekly Shipments and Arrivals.
*Partial season: October through March only.
□ Includes squash and eggplant.

currency from the world market to support the value of the peso and to maintain a stable U.S. dollar-peso exchange rate. A strong peso had become a symbol of sound economic policies and strong political leadership. While the peso maintained the value of about 4 cents (U.S.), a higher inflation rate in Mexico than in the United States raised production costs, putting export growers in a cost-price squeeze that made export production unprofitable.

By 1982, supporting the peso had become too costly and the Mexican government permitted its value to fall. Within a year, the value of the peso fell from 4 cents to 1 cent; the value of export sales, in peso terms, quadrupled. Export production again became profitable. During the 1982/83 season, Mexican growers expanded their share of the U.S market to 39 percent, up from 35 percent the previous year, reversing a 5-year decline. Mexican growers expanded their export production again in 1983/84. The freeze permitted Mexico to gain a still larger market share.

Good export prices will result in a profitable season for Mexican export producers. In past years, following profitable seasons such as the present one, Mexico's vegetable growers have expanded their export production. If Florida growers have near normal production in 1984/85 and Mexican growers expand their vegetable exports to the United States, the scene may be set for a year of larger than normal supplies in 1984/85.

The harvest of replanted acreage in Florida and Texas, combined with 1983/84 record levels of imported winter vegetables from Mexico, resulted in abundant supplies during March. Vegetable growers then saw a 5-percent drop in seasonally adjusted vegetables prices compared with February prices (table 2). The March 1984 prices, however, were 20 percent higher than for March 1983.

March 1984 average shipping point prices for some vegetables were generally higher than in February with carrots, celery, and tomatoes the exception (table 3). Average f.o.b. prices for celery, sweet corn, lettuce, and tomatoes may be lower in April 1984 than in April 1983 because of increased acreage, overlap of harvest activities in neighboring areas, and favorable weather. From December 1983 to January 1984, the grower-packer percentage of retail value dropped for most vegetables, except for celery, cucumbers, and potatoes (table 4).

In mid-March, representative wholesale prices for cabbage and onions were substantially higher than a year earlier, as the effects of the freeze lingered for these items (table 5).

The Future

Outlook for 1983/84 Winter Vegetables

Total supplies of the six major winter vegetables for the 1983/84 season could exceed the previous season by 4-10 percent because of ample imports from Mexico. The extent of the increase hinges on several possibilities:

- By mid-March 1983, 58 percent of the total 1982/83 seasonal shipments had been moved. If a similar rate persists for mid-March 1984, total 1983/84 shipments could increase by 7 percent from 1982/83.
- If shipments are the same during mid-March to mid-June 1984, as in 1983, then total seasonal shipments could increase by only 4 percent.
- If Mexico exports record supplies of winter vegetables, as it has in the past, and Florida's tomato shipments during April-June are greater than last season's, total seasonal supplies of the six winter vegetables will be 10 percent higher than last season's.

Prices Jump in First Quarter

The steady increase in fresh-vegetable prices since 1975 leveled in 1982 because of the recession's effects on consumer income and spending (table 6). First-quarter retail prices showed substantial gains over first-quarter 1983. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) averaged 387 (1967=100), a 33-percent increase over a year earlier and 27 percent over fourth-quarter 1983. Vegetables affected by the freeze led to this increase .

Similarly, the January-March index of grower prices returned to the record highs of 1981 and 1982 (table 7). Largely because of the freeze, prices during first-quarter 1984 were 27 percent above first-quarter 1983. January f.o.b. prices for Florida tomatoes were 75 percent above year earlier levels; wholesale prices in New York and Chicago were 50 percent higher. Bell pepper prices, on the other hand, were lower than a year earlier because of increased imports from Mexico. Cabbage, carrot, potato, and onion prices were all higher during first-quarter 1984.

Outlook for 1984 Consumer Prices

Second-quarter retail prices for fresh vegetables could drop to 1983 levels if increased production expectations are realized. Excellent weather conditions in the Southwest and California, coupled with grower intentions to expand acreage, could result in ample vegetable supplies.

Second-Quarter 1984 Acreage

Encouraging signs of economic recovery and higher consumer prices for food led to a 6-percent increase in second-quarter spring acreage for fresh vegetables (table 8). Good weather in California and Arizona during December 1983-February 1984 has set the stage for higher than average yields (figures 5 and 6).

Harvested acreage for dual-purpose vegetables (broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, and celery) is slated for a 7.3-percent increase over 1983 (table 8). Sweet corn, lettuce, and tomato acreage, harvested in second-quarter 1984, is expected to be 6.8 percent higher than a year earlier. Honeydew melon acreage is expected to be down 29 percent in the second quarter.

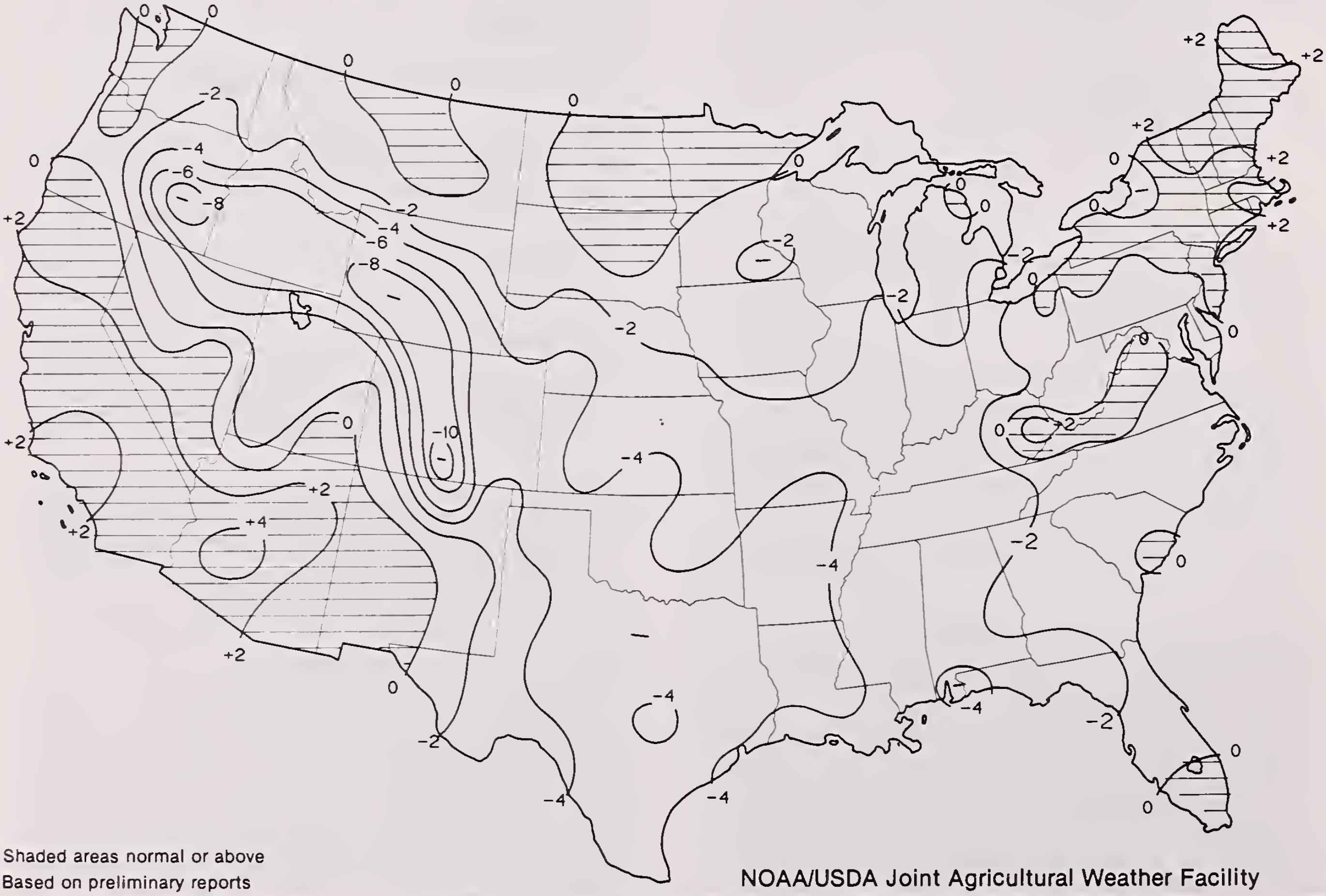
Prospects for Leading Items

Lettuce

A projected 8-percent increase in first-quarter 1984 lettuce production was met with a temporary transportation shortage in southern California and weather-induced shortfalls in southern Florida. Consequently, January-February f.o.b. lettuce prices were 27 percent greater than a year earlier (figure 7). January-June production is projected to be 71.3 million cwt. The average value of lettuce production has increased steadily (figure 8).

Figure 5

Departure of Average Temperature From Normal (°F)
Winter (December 1983-February 1984)



Shaded areas normal or above
Based on preliminary reports

NOAA/USDA Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

By the beginning of April, shipments of new-season lettuce were well above those of a year earlier. With continued good weather in central California, second-quarter production—projected to be about 14 percent higher than last year—will put downward pressure on grower, wholesale, and retail prices.

Tomatoes

The April 10 estimate for spring tomato acreage is 32,650 acres, 6 percent higher than in spring 1983 and 10 percent higher than in spring 1982. Tomato f.o.b. prices, reflecting impacts of the freeze, averaged higher in January and February 1984 than a year earlier but began to fall in March (figure 9). Prices are expected to continue declining through April-June, the peak Florida harvest period. Imported tomatoes from Mexico are expected to taper off during the second quarter as seasonal declines may be aggravated by recent dry weather in Mexico's Sinaloa Valley.

Onions

Storage onions moved well during first-quarter 1984, despite onion prices two to three times those of a year earlier (figure 10). The December freeze in south Texas left a supply gap that caused larger imports of Chilean and Mexican onions than in 1983. In response to higher prices, Texas growers increased their estimate of spring onion plantings, which now stands at 18,600 acres—still 2 percent below the harvested acreage in 1983. Total spring onion acreage is projected at 28,100, a slight decline from acreage harvested in 1983 (table 9).

Celery

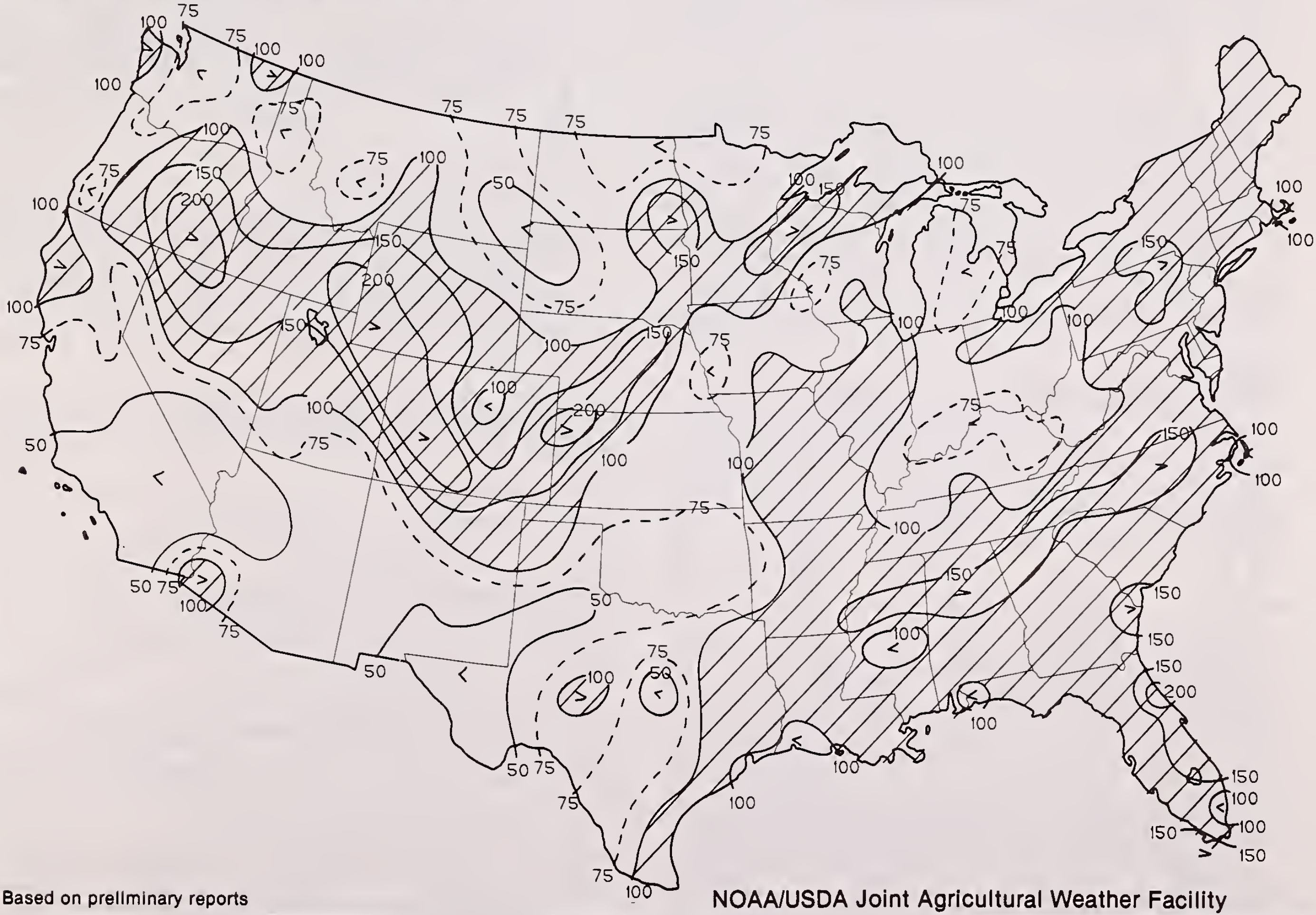
Rising celery prices in first-quarter 1984 led to increases in planted acreage, and, by April, the prospective area for harvest was 9,500 acres, 3 percent above that in 1983, but 2 percent below that in 1982 (table 8). Harvest acreage increases have been reported for the central areas of Florida and California; by April, total first-quarter shipments were comparable to those in 1983. Heavier supplies in the second quarter could reduce prices relative to second-quarter 1983 (figure 11).

Other Vegetables

Prospective harvest acreage for broccoli, carrots, and cauliflower in the second quarter increased 7 percent over a year earlier (table 8). Cauliflower acreage in California is set for a 22-percent increase above 1983 and 1

Figure 6

Percentage of Normal Precipitation
Winter (December 1983-February 1984)



Based on preliminary reports

NOAA/USDA Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

Figure 7

Lettuce: F.O.B. Shipping Point Prices

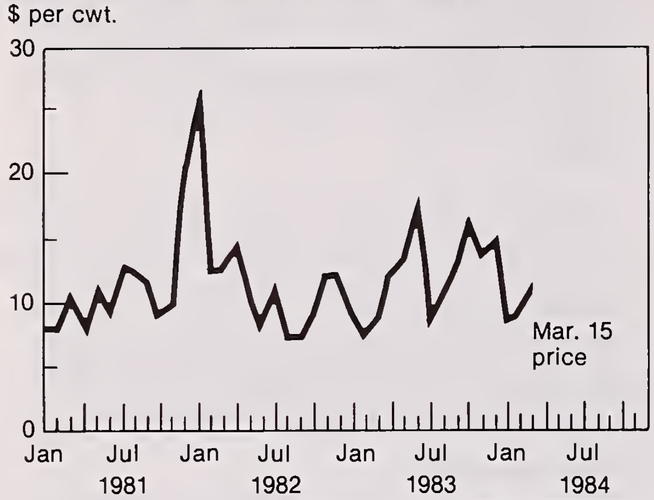
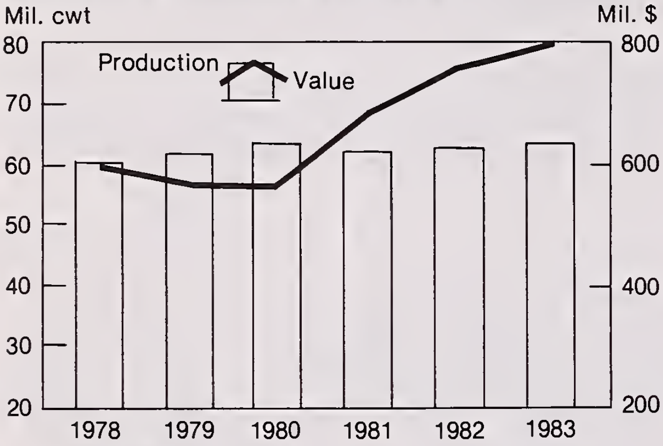


Figure 8

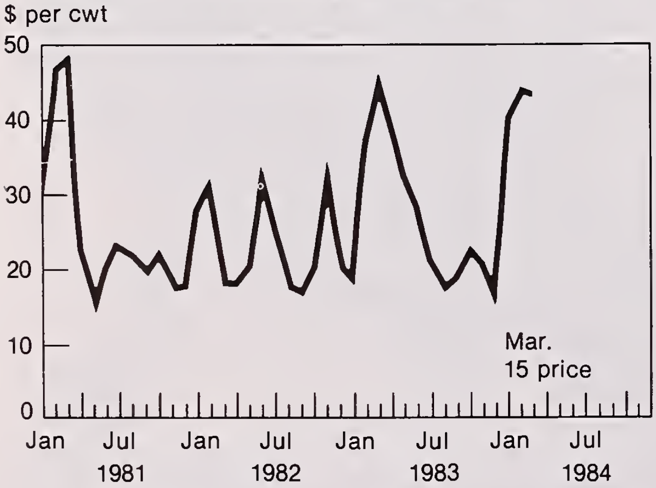
Lettuce: U.S. Production and Value*



*Excludes Hawaii.

Figure 9

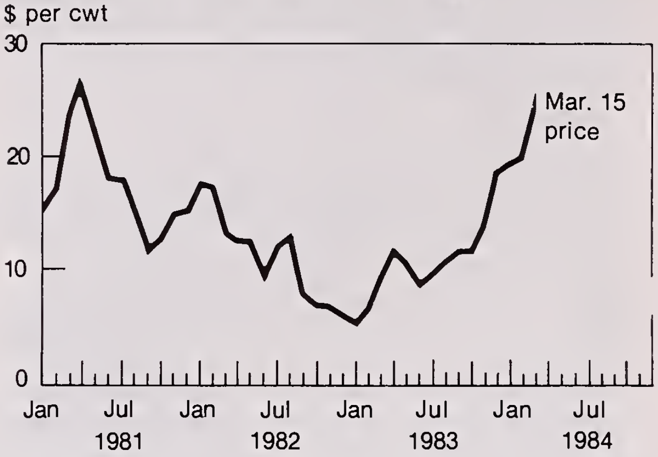
Tomatoes: F.O.B. Shipping Point Prices



*15th of the month

Figure 10

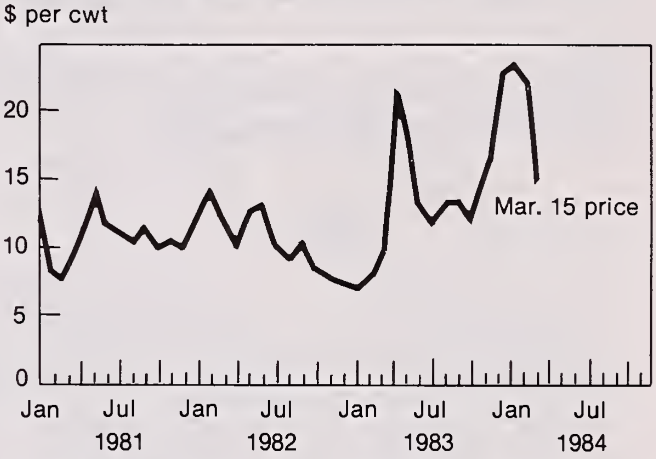
Onions: F.O.B. Shipping Point Prices



*15th of the month

Figure 11

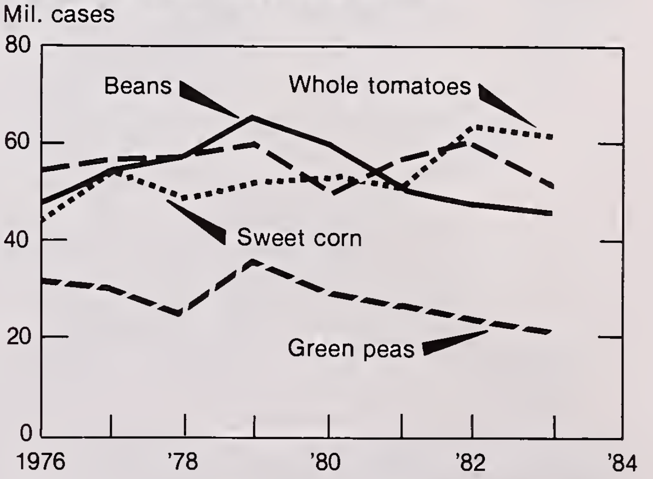
Celery: F.O.B. Shipping Point Prices



*15th of the month

Figure 12

Selected Canned Vegetable Packs



percent above 1982. Honeydew melon acreage is slated for a 29-percent decrease in second-quarter 1984.

Fresh vegetable supplies in first-half 1984 could be above 1983's, owing to dramatically increased imports from Mexico and other countries plus expanded acreage for the Florida and California spring crop. Spring onion supplies from Texas could be lower because of reduced transplant supplies and adverse weather early in the season.

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

Total 1983/84 supplies of canned vegetables were 6 percent lower than a year earlier (table 10) because of lower carryover and pack of snap beans and green peas (table 11, figure 12). Total 1983/84 supplies of frozen vegetables were 6 percent lower than a year earlier, but 6 percent higher than in 1981/82 (table 12). Frozen vegetable packs for four major vegetables (snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, and tomatoes) were lower in 1983 than in 1982 (figure 13).

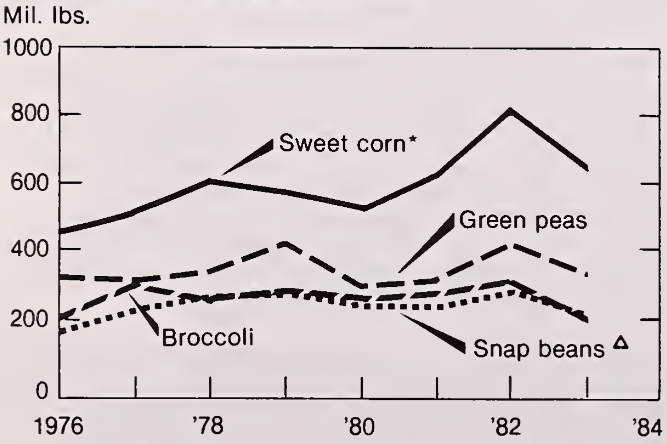
Tight supplies and renewed strength in consumer demand for all food items led to increasing quarterly wholesale prices for canned vegetables in 1983 and first-quarter 1984 (table 13). Stability in 1983 quarterly wholesale prices (table 14), coupled with a 20-percent decline in 1983/84 pack, led to a drop in frozen vegetable stocks during the early months of 1984 (table 15).

Quarterly retail prices of processed vegetables exhibited slightly greater strength in fourth-quarter 1983 and reasonable strength the following quarter because of relatively tight supplies and brisk movement (table 16). Marketing margins were stable from October 1983 through January 1984 (table 17).

The processors of four major vegetables intend to contract for 7 percent more acreage in 1984 than in 1983 (table 18). Based on canners' March intentions, the total supply of canned snap beans, sweet corn, and green peas could range from 8 to 10 percent higher if yields recover to 1982 levels. The supply of these three vegetables for freezing could increase by 7-9 percent if the intentions in *Prospective Plantings* are realized and yields return to those of 1982. A return to 1982 yields would also result in an increase in the supply of processing tomatoes greater than the indicated 11-percent increase in production.

Figure 13

Selected Frozen Vegetable Packs



*Cut corn and corn-on-cob.
△ Includes regular, french, and italian green beans and wax beans.

Other supply and price highlights of the processed vegetable situation include the following:

- F.o.b. plant prices for canned vegetables in first-quarter 1984 were 2 percent higher than in the previous quarter and 6 percent higher than a year earlier.
- Canned vegetable imports in 1983 were 15 percent below 1982's, but the January 1984 level was 65 percent higher than a year earlier.
- Carryover stocks of canned vegetables for 1983/84 were higher than for 1982/83, but a lower 1983/84 pack brought the total supply down from a year earlier.

Prospects for Leading Items

Green Peas

The 1983/84 carryover of canned green peas continued a decline begun in 1981, 45 percent lower than in 1982 and 48 percent lower than in 1981 (table 19). Canned pack levels in 1983/84 were 16 percent lower than a year earlier and 24 percent lower than in 1981/82. Total supply of canned green peas in 1983/84 was 22 percent lower than a year earlier; because the recent decline in disappearance may be leveling off in 1983/84, prices for canned green peas could increase slightly for the remainder of this marketing season.

A lower pack of frozen green peas in 1983/84 was only partially offset by higher carryover stocks (table 20). The total supply of frozen green peas in 1983/84 was 5 percent lower than 1982/83, but 8 percent higher than in 1981/82. Coupled with tighter supplies, increased movement of frozen peas resulted in March 1 stocks 13 percent less than a year earlier. Assuming continued strength in movement of frozen peas, carryover stocks for 1984/85 could reach 1981/82 levels of 69 million pounds.

Processors intend to contract for 343,800 acres of green peas in 1984, 8 percent higher than a year earlier (table 18). Growers in three eastern States (Delaware, Maryland, and New York) contracted for a combined 22,300 acres in 1983 and expect a 20-percent increase in 1984. Wisconsin growers, with the largest acreage under contract in 1983 (84,600 acres), expect an 11-percent increase in 1984.

Sweet Corn

Carryover of canned sweet corn for the 1983/84 marketing season was 53 percent higher than a year earlier and more than twice the 1981/82 carryover (table 21). The 1983/84 pack, however, was down 15 percent from 1982/83 and 11 percent from 1981/82. Total supply of canned sweet corn in 1983/84 was 7 percent lower than in 1982/83 and about the same as in 1981/82. Because apparent consumption in 1983/84 is running slightly higher than in 1982/83, March f.o.b. prices of canned corn are firm at levels slightly higher than in 1983.

Carryover stocks of frozen corn for 1983/84 were triple 1982/83's, but frozen packs were down 27 percent (table 22). The total supply of frozen corn was 7 percent lower in 1983/84 than in 1982/83, but 25 percent higher than in 1981/82. Up to March 1, seasonal movement of frozen cut corn was 7 percent greater than in 1982/83, and March 1 stocks were down 19 percent. During the remainder of 1983/84, the promise of brisk movement and strength in the prices of frozen corn led to a 12-percent increase in 1984 contracted acreage for freezing corn. If 1984 yields return to the 1982 level, ample supplies are expected for 1984/85.

Processors intend to contract for 452,400 acres of corn in 1984, 9 percent more than a year earlier (table 18). Delaware and Maryland growers indicate a 34-percent increase in contracted acreage over 1983; New York growers indicate a 2-percent reduction in acreage. In the North Central and Northwest regions, where most processing corn is produced, growers intend to increase acreage by about 9 percent.

Snap Beans

Reduced 1983/84 carryover stocks, coupled with a reduced 1983 pack, have led to tight end-of-season stocks of canned snap beans (table 23). The carryover stocks were 36 percent less than in 1982/83 and 50 percent less than in 1981/82. The 1983/84 pack was 4 percent lower than 1982/83 and 19 percent lower than 1981/82. The total supply of canned snap beans declined 11 percent in 1983/84 and 17 percent in 1982/83. The tight supplies expected for second-quarter 1984 will keep f.o.b. prices higher than a year earlier.

A 26-percent seasonal increase in 1983/84 carryover of frozen snap beans could not offset a 12-percent decline in pack of frozen beans (table 24). The total supply of frozen snap beans for 1983/84 was 4 percent lower than a year earlier but 2 percent higher than in 1981/82. A sharp increase in February movement of green beans left March 1 frozen storage holdings 7 percent lower than a year earlier.

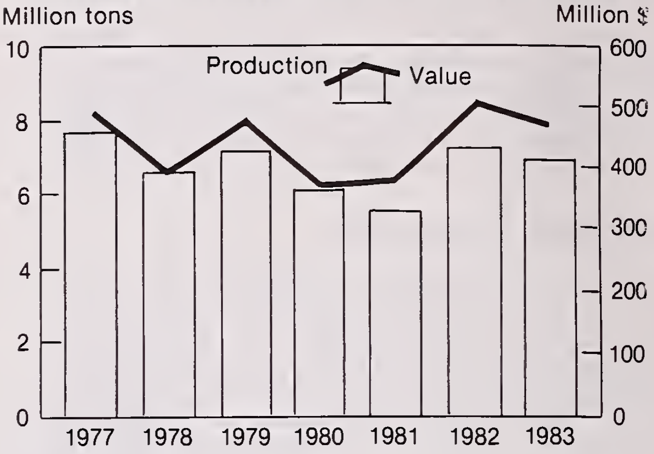
The acreage intentions for processing snap beans indicated an overall increase of 4 percent in contracted acreage, 4 percent for canning and 5 percent for freezing (table 18). Processors in Wisconsin report an expected 9-percent increase in contracted acreage for snap beans. Snap bean canners took an additional 8-percent acreage over contractual obligations in 1983, primarily because dry weather reduced output on contracted acreage.

Tomatoes

The July 1, 1983, California carryover of canned tomatoes was 64 percent greater than in 1982, slightly reducing pack activity for the current season (table 25). The total seasonal supply from U.S. producers, however, was nearly the same as a year earlier and about 13 percent greater than in 1981/82. Apparent strength in first-quarter 1984 movement of canned tomatoes resulted in higher April prices on most sizes than a year earlier.

Figure 14

Processing Tomatoes: U.S. Production and Value



The total supply of tomato paste was 15 percent higher this season because of higher pack offsetting lower carryover stocks (table 26). January 1, 1984, stocks on hand indicate lower shipments during the season's first half, but firm prices in April indicate a pick-up in second-half demand.

This season's supply of chili sauce was 10 percent lower than last season's because of a 9-percent reduction in pack. The January 1 stocks on hand were 2 percent lower than in 1983, reflecting slack in the season's first-half demand.

Tomato catsup supplies this season were substantially higher than last season. Both carryover and pack were higher, and July-January shipments were not enough to reduce January 1 stocks below year-earlier stocks. Consequently, catsup prices in April were not as firm as canned tomato and tomato sauce prices.

As of March 1984, tomato processors intend to contract 4 percent more acreage than in 1983 (table 18). If yields return to normal, 1984 supplies could be 11 percent greater than 1983 (figure 14). In California, where 80 percent of U.S. processing tomatoes are produced, growers may harvest 6.6 million tons from 249,000 acres.

The California Tomato Growers Association reached agreement with Contadina Foods, Inc., and Campbell Soup Co. for a base price of $54 per net ton. Growers last year were paid $53.50 per ton.

In 1983, the United States imported 2.6 percent of its processed tomato supply, including 371 million pounds of canned tomatoes, paste, and sauce, 4 percent less than in 1982 (table 27). A 19-percent decline in paste imports more than offset the 11-percent increase in canned tomatoes and sauce. In 1982, tomato paste took the lion's share (51 percent) and canned tomatoes ranked second (43 percent) among total imports of processed tomato products. In 1983, the situation reversed and resembled historical patterns.

Between 1982 and 1983, Israeli processors increased their market share of U.S. tomato imports from 17.7 to 22.1 percent. Israeli processors shipped 70 percent of U.S.-imported tomato sauce, 13 percent of paste, and 26 percent of other tomato products. Trade policymakers are currently focusing attention on the issue of processed-tomato imports from Israel. The possibility of forming a Free Trade Area with Israel has led the U.S. tomato-processing industry to seek an exclusion.

Broccoli

In 1983/84, frozen-broccoli carryover stocks were 59 percent above 1982/83 and 16 percent above 1981/82 (table 28). The 1983/84 broccoli pack was 28 percent below 1982/83, resulting in an 11-percent drop in 1983/84 total supply.

POTATOES

Recent Developments

Spring Production Rebounds

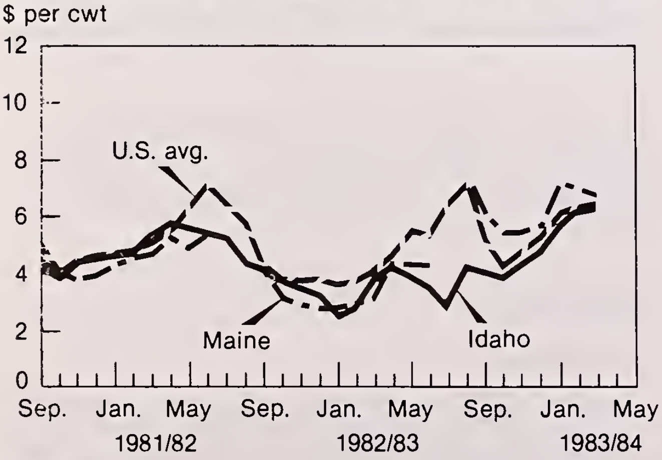
The 1984 spring potato crop is forecast at 23 million cwt. This compares with 18 million in 1983 and 21 million in 1982 (table 29). Farmers sharply increased plantings in 1983/84 in response to good prices and dwindling stocks. In addition, yields are expected to reach 272 cwt per acre, which will also help boost production.

Weather in the three largest spring-production States was another factor contributing to the excellent outturn. Fine growing conditions in California have resulted in the best overall situation there in several years. California growers will harvest an estimated 11.1 million cwt of spring potatoes, up a third from 1983. Potato yields, at 390 cwt per acre, are 15 percent greater than a year earlier, and the crop appears to be sizing well.

The Florida potato crop benefited from the December freeze because growers planted potatoes in devastated cabbage fields rather than replanting cabbage. Yields also are expected to set records; production, at 6.24 million cwt, is sharply above a year earlier. Heavy rain delayed planting in North Carolina, but planting is running well ahead of average. Production there is slightly above a year earlier. Conditions in the other spring-production States is also generally good.

Figure 15

Potatoes: Grower Prices, U.S. and Selected States*



*Crop years.

Stocks Down; Shipments Vary

April 1, 1984, holdings of potato stocks totaled 77.4 million cwt, substantially less than a year earlier (table 30). Holding patterns through the first quarter remained relatively unchanged from January. Stocks in the Eastern States were 22 percent below a year earlier; in the Western States, 10 percent; in the Central States, 5 percent.

Disappearance in the stock States was just over 200 million cwt, slightly less than in 1983. Of the total, approximately 21 million was due to shrink and loss.

Seasonal shipments of tablestock potatoes from all States were down 4 percent from a year earlier. Fresh shipments from some major States were as follows: Idaho up 7 percent; Washington up 27 percent; Oregon up 38 percent; Maine up 11 percent; and Wisconsin down 25 percent from 1983. New season shipments from Florida were 42 percent above a year earlier. Good demand kept shipments up despite the reduced fall crop.

During the first 4-1/2 months of 1984, potato seed shipments were running 1 percent less than in 1983. This appears to be deceptively low, considering the jump in spring production and anticipated production hikes later this year. Chipper shipments, however, climbed 20 percent from 1983, indicating strong demand for potato chips by consumers.

Processing Down Slightly

The amount of potatoes processed in the eight major States (Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin) to April 1 was 83.4 million cwt, about 1 percent less than in 1983 (table 31). However, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington are processing somewhat more potatoes this season. Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin are processing less; the sharply reduced crop in Maine is the chief cause of the overall drop in processing.

April 1 stocks were well below those of a year earlier. Stocks totaled 828 million pounds, compared with 912 million last year. Strong demand, stimulated by the economic recovery, coupled with sharply reduced pack of frozen potato products (table 32), is making itself felt. French fries are especially fine sellers. If freezer stocks can be used as a general indicator of how the fast food trade winds are blowing, then the 12-percent drop in french fry inventories implies a continued strong interest in food away from home. Two other factors should be mentioned here as they also help explain the frozen stock situation. The first is the overall reduced availability of potatoes; the other is the business community's general tendency to keep inventories down.

Prices Continue To Show Strength

The first-quarter average grower price was $6.28 per cwt (table 33 and figure 15), representing the second highest average for this quarter on record (first was the extremely depleted 1980 crop). On a State basis, Florida growers received the highest prices in the country for their winter crop, about $18.05 a cwt. California ranked second, with its fall crop taking prices moderately above its winter crop. Washington farmers received the lowest prices during this quarter, at $4.52 a cwt, because most of their potatoes are processed.

F.o.b. prices through mid-April for all varieties except Florida round reds (new season) were sharply higher than a year earlier (table 34). Terminal market prices also followed the general trend.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' Producer Price Index (PPI) for frozen french fries was unavailable for March 1984. However, the Economic Research Service (USDA) estimates the index through March was approximately 293.2, 2 percent above a year earlier.

The CPI for fresh potatoes, from January through March, averaged 355.1, almost 50 percent higher than last year. Healthy demand for the short crop helped fuel the upward spiral. Retail prices also were over 40 percent higher through the first quarter (table 35).

Preliminary Ruling Goes Against U.S. Growers

According to a first-round decision in the case, a Canadian tribunal ruled that there was reasonable evidence that U.S. growers (particularly those in the West) were guilty of dumping potatoes in Canadian markets. A 23-percent assessment on imports was levied beginning March 5. On April 17, a public hearing was held to further discuss the issue. More litigation is pending before final settlement of the issue.

U.S. exports of fresh and seed potatoes through the current season (October-February) are running at 15,143 metric tons, compared with 13,536 last season. Imports are up as well.

Outlook

Price-Acreage Relation

Summer acreage is still expected to be only slightly to moderately higher than last year. However, there are early indications that farmers will respond strongly to current high prices with sizable increases in fall acreage. If so, this will affect prices as follows:

- Grower prices through the second quarter will most likely range between $6.50 and $7.25 a cwt and then begin dropping in the third.
- The CPI for fresh potatoes will continue to range 25 to 50 percent above second-quarter 1983.
- The wholesale price index for frozen french fries should continue to be only slightly above last year throughout the second quarter because of firm supplies and moderate prices in the eight major processing States.

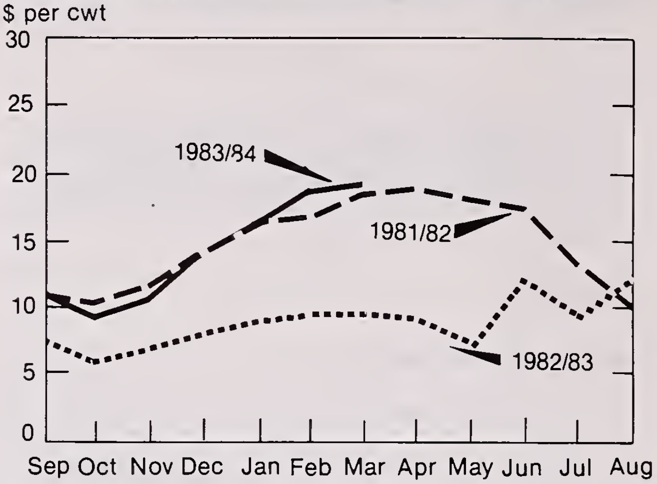
SWEETPOTATOES

Slight Acreage Increase; Strong Price Gains

Prospective sweetpotato acreage for the coming season is forecast at 106,100 acres, 3 percent more than in 1983 (table 36). The two major growing States, North Carolina and Louisiana, show an 8-percent acreage increase and a 4-percent decrease, respectively. Production for 1984 could average between 12,000 and 13,000 cwt, based on yields for the past 5 years.

Figure 16

Sweetpotatoes: F.O.B. Shipping Point Prices*



*Crop years.

Shipments of fresh sweetpotatoes are well behind last year. Through the early months of 1984, unloads at the major terminals were running a quarter less than a year earlier. The slower pace reflects the diminished crop and subdued demand for fresh and processed sweetpotatoes.

On January 1, 1984, canned sweetpotato supplies were 7.4 million cases (basis 24/303's), compared with 8.7 million in 1983. The pack from July 1, 1983, to January 1, 1984, was 25 percent less than the comparable period a year earlier. Shipments through the same period were down 8 percent. Some industry sources indicate that carryover stocks this coming July could be approximately 19 percent less than last year.

First-quarter grower prices were $18.03 per cwt, edging up steadily through all 3 months (figure 16). North Carolina farmers have been receiving the highest prices of any State, with Alabama growers near the bottom end of the scale. With stocks dwindling seasonally, grower prices will most likely range between $19.00 and $22.00 a cwt.

F.o.b. and terminal prices for sweetpotatoes were as much as three times last year's (table 37). Only California shipments seem to be actually less than last year's. Meanwhile, April canned prices for retail and institutional sizes were about even with last year.

MUSHROOMS

Prices Slacken

At Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, grower prices for fresh mushrooms were steady through December-February but began to ease slightly in March, as the low end of the price range went from 70 to 68 cents per pound. The result of a slight easing of prices is reflected in a first-quarter 1984 price lower than in the fourth-quarter 1983 (table 38).

Grower prices for processing mushrooms began a slight decline in October 1983—when the range was 65 to 75 cents per pound—to a February 1984 range of 62 to 68 cents per pound. By the end of March, the low end of the range was 55 cents per pound. The first-quarter average grower price was lower than last-quarter 1984 but still about the same as in first-quarter 1983 (table 38).

The mushroom industry, centered in Pennsylvania, is responding to the challenge of imported mushrooms by shifting away from processed production. The 1982/83 production of processing mushrooms was 15 percent below that in 1981/82, while imports were 20 percent over those in 1981/82 (table 39).

Imports of canned mushrooms in 1983/84 could be sharply higher than in 1982/83 if imports in the last 4 months of the season keep pace with the July-February rate of 80.6 million pounds (table 40). In the 1982/83 season, the July-February rate was 71.4 million pounds, 63 percent of the seasonal total of 113.5 million pounds. A 13-percent increase in imports would translate to 128 million pounds total for 1983/84, a prospect which may be influencing the currently unstable Pennsylvania mushroom market.

PULSES

Dry Edible Beans

Prospective Plantings Up; Prices Stable but Shallow

Despite bleak export prospects, farmers indicated that they would plant 1.46 million acres of dry edible beans this spring (table 41). This is a 27-percent increase over the previous year, but still is sharply less than the 1982 crop (table 41).

All States anticipate gains in planted acreage. Michigan, the chief bean-producing State, expects a 17-percent increase. California, another leading State, indicates a 28-percent rise. North Dakota, Colorado, Idaho, and Nebraska are other important dry bean States, and all show signs of marked acreage increases this spring. On a varietal basis, these gains augur moderate to substantial advances in most types of dry edible bean supplies later this year.

Grower prices slipped throughout first-quarter 1984, largely because of dormant foreign and domestic demand. The first-quarter average was $21.37 per cwt (table 42); the high was $22.10 in January and the low was $20.70 in March. Although the grower price declined steadily during the quarter, the average is considerably more than a year earlier and about even with the first-quarter average for the last 5 years, which were mostly years of high exports (table 43).

Grower prices showed great diversity on a State-by-State basis. In March, California, which specializes in the higher-priced varieties, posted grower prices of $31.50 per cwt, the highest in the Nation. Idaho growers received the lowest at $15.90 per cwt.

F.o.b. prices weakened during February and early March, dropping about $1 to $2 from January. Limited export offers and light domestic demand caused the market to slacken. However, prices began to firm in late March, when retailers sought to enhance low inventories. Relief was afforded to the pinto market in the form of exports to Angola and a moderate boost from domestic outlets. This caused f.o.b. prices to stabilize and even to increase somewhat, ranging from a low of $19 to $19.50 per cwt in the Red River Valley to $21 in Colorado, Kansas, and the Nebraska-Wyoming area. Mid-April prices were even higher, with quotations between $20 to $23 per cwt, compared with $11.50 to $14 a year earlier.

Pea beans are holding their own with growers keeping the lid on their production, as well as for great northern production. Prices continue unchanged for the California varieties—limas, kidneys, garbanzos; the market remains slow-paced. Wholesale inventories are adequate, and growers are holding back supplies to prevent price slippage. Large limas and red kidneys are doing well with prices in the upper and lower $40's, respectively. Blackeyes and pinks are selling sharply above last April's levels, with export possibilities of pinks to Brazil. Only baby limas and garbanzos are priced below year-ago f.o.b. rates.

Export Market Thin

The pinto sale to Angola was a relatively small tender. Michigan pea bean prices are 40 percent below a year earlier. Brazil expressed an interest in pinks and pintos, but purchased only about 1,000 tons from the United States. Venezuela and Puerto Rico inquired after black beans, which are in tight supply. Other than that, there is little good news about U.S. export prospects. The U.S. dollar's strength continues to make U.S. dry beans high-priced relative to competitors, and other countries' supplies are not greatly in need of replenishing. The Chilean crop has been harvested and the Argentine crop will be harvested in June. Both countries are major competitors in the world bean market (for export data, see table 44).

Outlook for the Coming Quarter

With exports light, domestic needs apparently satisfied, and little expectation of government sales, dry bean prices are not likely to show substantial increases. Grower prices, for all types through June, will average between $21 and $25 per cwt. Although pinto and great northern beans appear to be carrying heavy stocks, f.o.b. prices should still strengthen seasonally. The pea bean market will most likely continue steady with prices trending moderately upward. The same should prove true for the other varieties.

Dry Peas and Lentils

Prices Slip Slightly; Some Export Interest

Dry pea and lentil prices fell slightly during first-quarter 1984, but generally averaged near their January levels. Grower prices for green peas were $8.92 per cwt during January-March, compared with $8.85 a year earlier. Yellows averaged $7.65, down 3 percent from first-quarter 1983. Lentils, at $15.03 per cwt, were 21 percent above the comparable period a year earlier (see table 45 for monthly prices).

The export market for green peas showed increased activity in April, with sales of whole green peas to the Philippines, the United Kingdom, and India. Split greens were shipped to Venezuela; this explains the price rally for greens. Yellows and lentils were traded in a generally torpid market. No real export interest in yellows exists at this time, and the only domestic inquiries were for bird seed. Lentil exports for September-February are 46.1 million pounds, 27 percent lower than a year earlier. This is because Turkey has edged out the United States in the Algerian market. However, export inquiries from Greece could help bolster lentil prices.

Pea prices should rise seasonally. Grower prices for greens are backed by moderate demand, so they should continue steady. Depleted stores of lentils and the anticipation of acreage cutbacks will most likely boost prices somewhat.

LIST OF TABLES

1. Major fresh vegetable shipments, January-March 13
2. Fresh vegetables: Index of prices received by U.S. farmers 13
3. Fresh vegetables: Average U.S. f.o.b. shipping point prices 13
4. Fresh vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and grower and packer return per unit, sold in Baltimore, indicated months, 1982 and 1983 14
5. Fresh vegetables: Representative prices (wholesale lots), New York and Chicago 15
6. Fresh vegetables: Quarterly retail price index 15
7. Fresh vegetables: Quarterly index of grower prices 15
8. Fresh vegetables: Reported acreage of principal crops 16
9. U.S. onion acreage by seasonal group 16
10. Canned vegetables: Supplies and disappearance 16
11. Canned vegetables: Commercial packs and stocks by commodities 16
12. Frozen vegetables: Supplies and disappearance 16
13. Canned vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price index 16
14. Frozen vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price index 17
15. Frozen vegetables: Cold storage holdings and indicated disappearance 17
16. Processed vegetables: Quarterly retail price index 17
17. Processed vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and farm value per unit, sold in Baltimore 18
18. Processing vegetables: Planted and prospective acreage 19
19. Canned green peas: Supply and disappearance 19
20. Frozen green peas: Supply and disappearance 19
21. Canned sweet corn: Supply and disappearance 19
22. Frozen sweet corn: Supply and disappearance 19
23. Canned snap beans: Supply and disappearance 19
24. Frozen snap beans: Supply and disappearance 19
25. Canned tomatoes: Supply and disappearance 20
26. Tomato paste: Supply and disappearance 20
27. Tomato product imports 20
28. Frozen broccoli: Supply and disappearance 20
29. Winter and spring potatoes: Acreage, yield, and production 20
30. Fall potatoes: April 1 total stocks by areas, 15 major States 21
31. Processing potato use in major States 21
32. Frozen potato products pack 21
33. Potatoes: U.S. quarterly and seasonal average grower prices 21
34. Potatoes: F.o.b. shipping point and terminal market prices 22
35. Potatoes: Quarterly retail price index 22
36. Sweetpotatoes: Planted and prospective acreage 22
37. Sweetpotatoes: F.o.b. shipping point and terminal market prices 23
38. Mushrooms: Quarterly grower prices, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania 23
39. Processed mushrooms: U.S. production, stocks, sales, imports, and apparent consumption 23
40. Canned mushrooms: Imports, total and selected countries 23
41. Dry edible beans: Planted and prospective acreage 23
42. Dry edible beans: U.S. quarterly and season average grower prices 24
43. Dry edible peas and lentils: Grower prices 24
44. Pulses: U.S. exports 24

Table 1.—Major fresh-vegetable shipments, January-March[1]

Item	Year 1983	Year 1984	1984 as percentage of 1983
	1,000 cwt		
Broccoli	2,443	1,777	73
Cabbage	4,621	3,760	81
Carrots	3,741	3,692	99
Cauliflower	991	1,196	121
Celery	4,509	4,161	92
Cucumbers	2,110	2,138	101
Lettuce	15,436	15,703	102
Onions	6,121	6,411	105
Peppers	1,415	1,743	123
Squash	1,033	1,301	126
Tomatoes	6,575	6,442	98
Total	48,995	48,324	99

[1] Includes shipments from Mexico.

SOURCE: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Fresh Fruits and Vegetables: Weekly Summary of Shipments and Arrivals.

Table 2.—Fresh vegetables: Index of prices received by U.S. farmers

	1983			1984		
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
	1977=100[1]					
Fresh-market vegetables	96	120	140	163	178	149

[1] Seasonally adjusted.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Agricultural Prices.

Table 3.—Fresh vegetables: Average U.S. f.o.b. shipping point prices

Commodity	1983		1984		
	March	April	February	March	April 1-15
	Dollars per cwt				
Carrots	11.00	10.00	17.40	16.40	17.60
Celery	9.93	21.00	21.70	14.40	11.70
Corn, sweet	23.00	16.90	27.60	20.90	14.10
Lettuce	8.92	12.50	9.45	9.13	7.54
Onions	9.15	11.60	19.60	25.60	29.90
Tomatoes	46.00	39.40	44.00	34.80	27.60

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Agricultural Prices.

Q. & A.

What's happening to agriculture in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union?

Find the answer in this new publication from the Economic Research Service . . .
Agricultural Statistics of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, 1960-80.

More than 100 tables provide 20 years' worth of information on land use, farm inputs, crop and livestock production, and per capita consumption of agricultural products in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Yugoslavia, and the Soviet Union.

To order Agricultural Statistics of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, 1960-80 (SB-700) . . .

Write to Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Make your check or money order for $4.00 per copy payable to Superintendent of Documents. For faster service, call (202) 783-3238 and charge your purchase to your VISA, MasterCard, or GPO Deposit Account.

Table 4.—Fresh vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and grower and packer return per unit, sold in Baltimore, indicated months, 1982 and 1983

Commodity, month, and retail unit	Retail price[1]	Marketing margin		Grower and packer return (F.o.b. shipping point price)[2, 3]	
		Absolute	Percentage of retail value	Absolute	Percentage of retail value
	Cents	*Cents*	*Percent*	*Cents*	*Percent*
Carrots (pound)					
January 1984	45.0	28.4	63	16.6	37
December 1983	44.0	22.5	51	21.5	49
January 1983	33.0	18.0	55	15.0	45
Celery (pound)					
January 1984	39.5	9.9	25	29.6	75
December 1983	37.2	11.2	30	26.0	70
January 1983	27.8	20.2	73	7.6	27
Cucumbers (pound)					
January 1984	63.8	27.6	42	36.2	57
December 1983	42.5	32.4	76	10.1	24
January 1983	62.0	29.6	48	32.4	52
Lettuce (pound)					
January 1984	41.9	29.4	70	12.5	30
December 1983	52.0	36.2	69	16.3	31
January 1983	29.0	18.0	62	11.0	38
Onions, dry yellow (pound)					
January 1984	37.0	21.6	58	15.4	42
December 1983	35.0	19.1	55	15.9	45
January 1983	20.0	15.5	77	4.5	23
Potatoes, round white (pound)					
January 1984	18.4	13.4	73	5.0	27
December 1983	18.4	13.0	71	5.4	29
January 1983	16.8	12.5	74	4.5	27
Potatoes, russet (pound)					
January 1984	50.0	26.6	53	23.4	47
December 1983	47.0	29.3	62	17.7	38
January 1983	47.0	35.0	74	12.0	26
Sweetpotatoes (pound)					
January 1984	44.9	18.9	42	26.0	58
December 1983	42.0	16.5	39	25.5	61
January 1983	23.0	13.1	57	9.9	43

---

[1] Retail prices from Maryland Department of Agriculture. [2] For quantity of product equivalent to retail unit sold to consumers; because of waste and spoilage during marketing, equivalent quantity exceeds retail unit. [3] Production areas: carrots-California; celery-California; lettuce-California; onions-New York; potatoes, round white-New York; potatoes, russet-Idaho; and sweetpotatoes-North Carolina.

Table 5.—Fresh vegetables: Representative prices (wholesale lots), New York and Chicago

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest midmonth					
			1983		1984			
			Mar. 15	Apr. 12	Jan. 10	Feb. 14	Mar. 13	Apr. 17
			Dollars					
NEW YORK								
Beans, snap, green	Florida	Bu. hamper and crt.	21.50	15.50	23.50	31.00	11.00	
Broccoli, bunched	Califorina	Ctn. 14 bn.	13.50	15.50	10.50	9.50	9.50	
Cabbage, domestic								
round type	Florida	Crt. 1-3/4 bu.	5.75	6.25	—	—	30.00	
Carrots, topped, washed	California	Ctn. 48-1 lb. film bag,	9.00	8.50	12.50	14.00	12.00	
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd., 12's	14.00	16.00	12.50	8.50	11.50	
Celery								
pascal	California	Crt. 2-3 doz.	8.50	18.50	23.50	22.50	16.00	
pascal	Florida	Crt. 2-3 doz.	—	—	—	19.00	13.50	
Corn, sweet, yellow	Florida	Crt. 4-1/2-5 doz.	14.00	13.00	—	16.50	—	
Cucumbers	Florida	Bu. bskt.	—	20.00	—	—	—	
Lettuce, iceberg	California	Ctn. 2 doz.	10.00	11.00	10.00	8.50	10.00	
Onions								
yellow, globe, medium	New York	Sack 50-lb.	4.00	6.00	9.25	10.50	12.00	
yellow, granex, large	Texas	Sack 50-lb.	—	13.00	—	—	—	
Peppers, bell	Florida	Crt. bu., large	10.00	22.50	13.50	15.00	20.00	
Tomatoes, large	Florida	Ctn. 25-lb.	25.50	17.00	14.50	21.50	20.50	
CHIGAGO								
Beans, snap, green	Florida	Bu. hamper and crt.	20.50	18.00	22.50	—	14.50	
Broccoli	California	Ctn. 14 bn.	12.50	15.00	10.00	9.00	11.00	
Cabbage, domestic								
round type	Texas	Crt. 1-3/4 bu.	5.50	6.25	15.50	17.00	28.00	
Carrots, topped, washed	Texas	Mesh master, 48-1 lb. film bag	8.75	7.50	—	—	—	
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd. 12's	13.50	18.00	15.50	9.50	11.00	
Celery								
pascal	California	Crt. 2-3 doz.	10.00	15.50	23.50	22.50	15.00	
pascal	Florida	Crt. 2-4 doz.	9.00	10.00	—	—	—	
Corn, sweet, yellow	Florida	Crt. 4-1/2-5 doz.	15.00	13.50	—	18.00	—	
Lettuce, iceberg	Arizona	Ctn. 2 doz, head	6.75	11.50	9.50	7.00	9.00	
Onions, yellow granex,								
medium	Texas	Sack 50 lb.	—	10.00	—	—	—	
yellow, globe, medium	Midwest	Sack 50 lb.	4.75	—	8.00	10.00	10.75	
Peppers, bell	Florida	Bu. crt. and ctn.	19.00	24.00	14.50	—	—	
Tomatoes, large	Florida	Ctn. 25 lb.	24.00	17.00	13.50	—	—	

SOURCE: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Weekly summary of terminal market prices.

Table 6.—Fresh vegetables: Quarterly retail price index[1]

Year	Quarter				Annual
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
	1967=100				
1973	151	167	151	137	152
1974	150	160	152	151	153
1975	168	169	165	160	166
1976	170	168	165	179	170
1977	221	216	178	184	200
1978	212	247	209	204	218
1979	254	224	211	226	229
1980	220	250	231	253	239
1981	287	275	258	248	267
1982	341	302	250	257	288
1983	292	327	286	305	302
1984	387				

[1] Excludes potatoes.

SOURCE: Economic Research Service index derived from Consumer Price Index.

Table 7.—Fresh vegetables: Quarterly index of grower prices[1]

Year	Quarter				Annual
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
	1977=100				
1973	81	98	74	64	79
1974	73	83	73	81	77
1975	85	93	83	90	88
1976	93	80	86	92	88
1977	128	93	84	96	100
1978	107	129	94	94	106
1979	134	105	95	101	109
1980	100	116	104	119	110
1981	163	127	121	128	135
1982	160	117	99	107	121
1983	152	145	114	138	137
1984	163				

[1] Excludes potatoes.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Agricultural Prices.

Table 8.—Fresh vegetables: Reported acreage of principal crops

Seasonal group and crop	Prospective area for harvest		1984 percentage of 1983
	1983	1984	
	1,000 acres		*Percent*
Winter			
Total	145.3	149.4	103
Spring			
Broccoli[1]	19.1	20.3	106
Carrots[1]	10.0	10.3	103
Cauliflower[1]	6.7	8.2	122
Celery[1]	9.2	9.5	103
Sweet corn	39.5	39.6	100
Lettuce	40.9	46.5	114
Tomatoes	30.8	32.6	106
Total 7 vegetable[2]	156.2	167.0	107
Honeydew melons	5.5	3.9	71

[1] Includes fresh market and processing. [2] May not add to total because of rounding.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Vegetables.

Table 9.—U.S. onion acreage by seasonal group

Season	1982	1983	1984	1984 percentage of 1983
	Acres			
Spring[1]				
Arizona	1,700	1,600	1,800	112
Texas	19,400	19,000	18,600	98
California	7,900	7,600	7,700	101
Total	29,000	28,200	28,100	100
Summer/				
Nonstorage[2]	12,800	11,900	11,500	97
Storage[1]	56,580	55,110	56,530	103
California[2, 3]	30,600	28,400	27,700	98
Total: spring and summer	128,980	123,610	123,830	100

[1] Data are current estimate of area for harvest. [2] Primarily for processing. [3] The 1984 data are planting intentions as of March.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Vegetables.

Table 10.—Canned vegetables: Supplies and disappearance[1]

Year	Pack and carryover	Disappearance
	Million cases (24/303's)	
1980/81	269	224
1981/82	265	223
1982/83	261	223
1983/84	245	

[1] Seven items—lima beans, snap beans, beets, sweet corn, green peas, sauerkraut, and tomatoes.

SOURCES: National Food Processors Association and National Kraut Packers Association.

Table 11.—Canned vegetables: Commercial packs and stocks by commodities

	Packs		Stocks		
	1982	1983	Date	1983	1984
	1,000 cases (24/303's)				
Side-dish					
Asparagus	2,844	2,549	Mar. 1	868	NA
Lima beans	2,602	2,338	Mar. 1	1,058	NA
Snap beans	47,849	45,711	Mar. 1	23,703	NA
Beets	10,049	7,672	Jan. 1	9,421	7,980
Carrots	4,525	2,776	Jan. 1	4,210	3,794
Sweet corn	60,522	51,595	Mar. 1	29,749	NA
Green peas	24,790	20,827	Mar. 1	9,741	NA
Sauerkraut	10,773	9,696	Mar. 1	7,557	3,718
Spinach	NA	NA	Mar. 1	NA	NA
Total	164,000	143,200			
Tomato					
Whole tomatoes	63,089	61,561	Jan. 1	39,938	23,675
Tomato juice[1]	23,955	NA	Jan. 1	16,958	NA
Tomato paste	31,869	32,277	Jan. 1	4,371	6,517
Total	118,913	93,840		61,267	30,192
Side-dish and tomato Total	282,900	237,000			

[1] Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.

SOURCE: National Food Processors Association and National Kraut Packers Association.

Table 12.—Frozen vegetables: Supplies and disappearance[1]

Year	Pack and carryover	Disappearance
	Million pounds	
1980/81	2,539	2,116
1981/82	2,578	2,181
1982/83	2,936	2,241
1983/84[2]	2,718	

[1] Eight items: Lima beans, snap beans, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, sweet corn, green peas, and spinach. [2] Projections based on American Frozen Food Institute data.

SOURCES: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Cold Storage; American Frozen Food Institute.

Table 13.—Canned vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price index

Year	Quarter				Annual
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
	1967=100				
1979	184.0	185.6	189.1	188.0	186.7
1980	186.8	190.6	198.9	207.3	195.9
1981	213.7	223.5	232.1	239.0	227.1
1982	241.7	242.9	241.8	240.7	241.8
1983	242.9	244.0	248.0	252.8	246.9
1984	256.1				

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Producer Price Index.

Table 14.—Frozen vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price index

Year	Quarter 1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Annual
		1967=100			
1979	206.1	207.6	213.5	216.5	210.9
1980	214.6	220.5	227.5	226.6	222.3
1981	228.7	249.7	263.0	270.8	253.1
1982	275.7	278.7	282.7	283.0	280.0
1983	284.1	283.7	284.0	282.9	283.7
1984	[1]285.0				

[1] Unofficial Economic Research Service estimate.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Producer Price Index.

Table 15.—Frozen vegetables: Cold storage holdings and indicated disappearance

Commodity	April 1			Net change Jan. 1-April 1		
	1982	1983	1984	1982	1983	1984
			Million pounds			
Asparagus	3	6	4	−2	−3	−2
Lima beans	32	52	60	−30	−23	−27
Snap beans	105	133	125	−73	−71	−87
Broccoli	67	76	67	−17	−31	−4
Brussels sprouts	35	36	28	−16	−4	−11
Carrots	112	177	141	−39	−35	−45
Cauliflower	39	54	48	−18	−16	23
Sweet corn	204	382	341	−149	−176	−202
Mixed vegetables	45	50	50	2	−4	1
Okra	15	34	27	−14	−18	−21
Onions	25	32	27	−4	4	−2
Blackeyed peas	7	8	8	−4	−4	−4
Green peas	94	139	118	−86	−108	−111
Peas and carrots	9	10	10	−8	−4	0
Spinach	62	33	54	−2	−20	12
Squash	23	33	28	−15	−13	−15
Southern greens	24	26	16	−6	−6	−8
Other vegetables	159	159	155	−42	−32	−25
Total[1]	1,060	1,440	1,306	−523	−564	−576
Potatoes	846	903	828	157	136	55
Grand total[1]	1,906	2,343	2,134	−366	−428	−521

[1] May not add to total because of rounding.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Cold Storage.

Table 16.—Processed vegetables: Quarterly retail price index

Year	Quarter 1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Annual
		December 1977=100			
1979	107.5	108.5	110.8	111.2	109.5
1980	113.9	115.3	118.8	122.0	117.5
1981	125.6	130.4	135.4	136.1	131.9
1982	137.8	138.8	140.1	138.7	138.9
1983	138.0	138.1	139.9	141.9	139.5
1984	144.6				

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index.

Table 17.—Processed vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and farm value per unit, sold in Baltimore

Commodity, month, and retail unit	Retail price[1]	Marketing margin		Farm value[2, 3]	
		Absolute	Percentage of retail price	Absolute	Percentage of retail price
	Cents			Cents	
Canned beans (303)					
February 1984	50.0	44.0	88	6.0	12
November 1983	50.0	44.0	88	6.0	12
February 1983	44.4	37.9	86	6.1	12
Frozen beans (9 oz.)					
January 1984	62.0	56.8	92	5.2	8
October 1983	62.0	56.8	92	5.2	8
January 1983	57.0	51.4	90	5.6	10
Frozen broccoli spears (10 oz.)					
February 1984	67.8	51.6	72	16.2	24
November 1983	72.0	55.8	77	16.2	23
February 1983	71.3	54.9	77	16.4	23
Canned corn (303)					
January 1984	49.0	41.7	85	7.3	15
October 1983	54.0	46.7	86	7.3	14
January 1983	53.0	45.8	86	7.2	14
Frozen corn (10 oz.)					
January 1984	65.0	57.6	89	7.4	11
October 1983	62.0	54.4	88	7.6	12
January 1983	58.0	50.0	86	8.0	14
Canned peas (303)					
January 1984	45.0	37.0	82	8.0	18
October 1983	48.0	40.0	83	8.0	17
January 1983	44.0	36.2	82	7.8	18
Frozen peas (10 oz.)					
January 1984	63.0	56.3	89	6.7	11
October 1983	64.5	57.8	90	6.7	10
January 1983	62.0	54.3	88	7.7	12
Canned tomatoes (303)					
January 1984	60.0	55.1	92	4.9	8
October 1983	62.0	57.1	92	4.9	8
January 1983	61.0	55.9	92	5.1	8
Tomato Juice (3 cyl.)					
March 1984	101.0	85.9	85	15.1	15
December 1983	101.0	85.9	85	15.1	15
March 1983	99.0	83.0	83	16.0	16

---

[1] Retail prices from Maryland Department of Agriculture. [2] For quantity of product equivalent to retail unit sold to consumers; because of waste and spoilage during processing and marketing, equivalent quantity exceeds retail unit. [3] Production areas: beans (frozen), West; corn (canned), Midwest; corn (frozen), West; peas (sweet, canned), Midwest; peas (frozen), West; tomatoes (canned), California.

Table 18.—Processing vegetables: Planted and prospective acreage

Crop	1982 total	Planted acreage 1983 Total	Planted acreage 1983 Contract	Prospective 1984 contract	1984 as percentage of contract 1983
			1,000 acres		
Beans, snap					
Freezing	63.1	60.2	59.2	61.8	105
Canning	150.2	145.6	134.2	139.0	104
Total	213.3	205.8	193.3	200.9	104
Corn, sweet					
Freezing	160.5	137.4	136.8	152.5	111
Canning	295.4	279.0	278.0	299.9	108
Total	455.9	416.4	414.8	452.4	109
Peas, green					
Freezing	156.3	153.6	153.6	162.4	106
Canning	162.1	165.3	165.3	180.9	109
Total	318.4	318.9	318.9	343.3	108
All three crops					
Freezing	379.9	351.2	349.6	376.7	108
Canning	607.7	589.9	577.5	619.8	107
Total	987.6	941.1	927.1	996.5	107
Tomatoes	317.6	299.1	291.0	303.1	104
Total four crops	1,305.2	1,240.2	1,218.0	1,299.7	107

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Vegetables.

Table 19.—Canned green peas: Supply and disappearance

	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84
		Million cases (24/303's)	
Carryover	6.2	5.8	3.2
Pack	27.3	24.8	20.8
Total supply	33.5	30.6	24.0
Disappearance	27.7	27.4	

Table 20.—Frozen green peas: Supply and disappearance

	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84
		Million pounds	
Carryover	68.8	55.0	92.5
Pack	333.9	404.8	344.2
Total supply	402.7	459.8	436.7
Disappearance	347.7	367.3	

Table 21.—Canned sweet corn: Supply and disappearance

	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84
		Million cases (24/303's)	
Carryover	4.7	7.3	11.2
Pack	57.9	60.5	51.6
Total supply	62.7	67.8	62.8
Disappearance	55.4	56.6	

Table 22.—Frozen sweet corn: Supply and disappearance

	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84
		Million pounds	
Carryover	54.8	64.0	192.3
Pack	619.4	529.1	834.3
Total supply	674.2	593.1	1,026.6
Disappearance	610.2	400.8	

Table 23.—Canned snap beans: Supply and disappearance

	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84
		Million cases (24/303's)	
Carryover	15.9	12.4	8.0
Pack	52.8	48.8	46.5
Total supply	68.7	61.2	54.5
Disappearance	56.3	53.2	

Table 24.—Frozen snap beans: Supply and disappearance

	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84
		Million pounds	
Carryover	80.9	68.8	86.4
Pack	247.9	281.4	248.7
Total supply	328.8	350.2	335.1
Disappearance	260.0	263.8	

Table 25.—Canned tomatoes: Supply and disappearance

	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84
	Million cases (24/303's)		
Carryover	10.3	8.6	14.1
Pack	51.9	63.1	61.5
Total supply	62.2	71.7	75.6
Disappearance	53.6	57.6	

Table 27.—Tomato product imports

Year	Canned tomatoes	Tomato paste	Tomato sauce	Total
	1,000 pounds			
1978	74.1	51.0	7.1	132.2
1979	45.6	42.1	2.8	90.5
1980	39.9	25.5	1.7	67.1
1981	97.2	65.2	9.1	171.5
1982	167.0	198.0	21.8	386.8
1983	186.7	160.7	23.6	371.0

SOURCE: Bureau of the Census.

Table 26.—Tomato paste: Supply and disappearance

	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84
	Million cases (6/10's)		
Carryover	1,483	856	140
Pack	16,539	16,436	19,672
Total supply	18,022	17,292	19,812
Disappearance	17,166	17,152	

Table 28.—Frozen broccoli: Supply and disappearance

	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84
	Million pounds		
Carryover	76.3	55.5	88.5
Pack	306.8	335.5	260.5
Total supply	383.1	391.0	349.0
Disappearance	327.6	302.5	

Table 29.—Winter and spring potatoes: Acreage, yield, and production

Seasonal group and State	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest						
	1982	1983	1984[1]	1982	1983	1984[1]	1982	1983	1984[1]
	1,000 acres			*Cwt*			*1,000 cwt*		
Winter									
Total	11.0	11.3	13.0	206	194	220	2,263	2,193	2,862
Spring:									
North Carolina	13.8	13.8	13.8	160	155	160	2,208	2,139	2,208
Florida									
Hastings	21.5	22.0	24.0	240	215	250	5,160	4,730	6,000
Other	1.2	1.2	1.1	210	155	220	252	186	242
Alabama	4.2	4.1	4.6	170	125	135	714	513	621
Louisiana	1.1	1.0	1.0	80	50	70	88	50	70
Texas	6.0	5.9	6.2	190	185	210	1,140	1,092	1,302
Arizona	4.7	4.9	5.4	305	260	265	1,434	1,274	1,431
California	25.5	24.5	28.5	375	340	390	9,563	8,330	11,115
Total	78.0	77.4	84.6	264	237	272	20,559	18,314	22,989

[1] Indicated as of April 1.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Crop Production.

Table 30.—Potatoes: April 1 total stocks by areas, 15 major States

Year	Eastern States	Central States	Western States	Total[1]
		Million cwt		
1976	11.2	7.2	52.6	71.0
1977	10.5	8.0	62.6	81.1
1978	12.5	14.1	62.1	88.7
1979	11.3	16.0	72.1	99.3
1980	14.1	13.8	64.7	92.6
1981	9.6	7.9	54.9	72.5
1982	10.4	13.1	58.4	81.9
1983	11.8	14.1	63.2	89.1
1984	9.4	12.9	55.2	77.4

[1] May not add to total because of rounding.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Potato Stocks.

Table 31.—Processing potato use in major States[1]

Season	To April 1	Entire season
	1,000 cwt	
1978-79	78,830	124,265
1979-80	75,090	115,645
1980-81	71,160	99,950
1981-82	87,001	127,004
1982-83	83,980	122,750
1983-84	83,365	

[1] Includes Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Maine, North Dakota, Minnesota, and Michigan from 1977-78 through 1980-81. Also includes Wisconsin beginning in 1981-82.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Potato and Sweetpotato Annual Report: Estimated Potato Stocks.

Table 32.—Frozen potato products pack

Year	Million pounds	Year	Million pounds
1960	551	1972	2,594
1961	579	1973	2,691
1962	762	1974	2,985
1963	862	1975	3,001
1964	1,118	1976	3,335
1965	1,219	1977	3,623
1966	1,460	1978	3,849
1967	1,491	1979	4,090
1968	1,736	1980	3,853
1969	2,048	1981	4,236
1970	2,404	1982	4,377
1971	2,565	[1]1983	2,490

[1] January-July

SOURCE: American Frozen Food Institute.

Table 33.—Potatoes: U.S. quarterly and seasonal average grower prices

Year	Quarter				Seasonal average[1]
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
			Dollars per cwt		
1978	3.23	4.15	5.04	3.07	3.38
1979	2.93	2.97	3.42	3.33	3.43
1980	3.35	3.77	6.66	5.51	6.55
1981	7.67	8.59	7.19	4.36	5.41
1982	4.84	6.30	5.49	3.76	4.59
1983	3.72	5.57	6.62	5.01	5.23
1984	6.28				

[1] Seasonal average crop price in indicated year.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Agricultural Prices.

Table 34.—Potatoes: F.o.b. shipping point and terminal market prices

Item	Week ended						
	1983			1984			
	Feb. 7	Mar. 7	Apr. 11	Jan. 3	Feb. 6	Mar. 5	Apr. 9
	Dollars per cwt						
F.O.B. SHIPPING POINTS							
New stock							
Florida, Dade County U.S. No. 1, Size A, round reds[1]	—	18.00	6.50	—	—	16.00	7.00
Old stock							
Colorado San Luis Valley red McClures[2]	6.50	6.50	8.00	8.25	9.50	9.25	6.00
Idaho, Idaho Falls russets[3]	11.50	12.75	14.50	23.50	21.00	12.75	19.00
Maine, Aroostook County U.S. No. 1, Size A, mostly katahdin[1, 4]	2.66	2.40	4.62	8.28	7.64	7.64	6.38
New York, upstate round white[1]	5.00	4.76	6.50	10.38	9.64	8.76	9.50
Michigan round whites[1]	—	—	—	9.16	—	—	—
	Tuesday nearest midmonth						
	1983			1984			
	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 12	Jan. 17	Feb. 14	Mar. 13	Apr. 17
	Dollars per cwt						
TERMINAL MARKETS							
New York							
New stock							
Florida, round reds[1, 5]	—	—	20.00	—	—	—	—
Old stock							
Long Island, various round whites[1, 5]	6.50	6.30	—	12.00	11.70	—	—
Maine, katahdin[1, 4, 5]	6.50	6.00	8.50	12.00	11.70	12.50	10.00
Idaho, russets[1, 5]	22.00	22.50	22.50	18.00	36.00	—	26.50
Chicago							
New stock							
Florida, round reds[1, 5, 6]	18.00	24.00	9.00	—	26.00	23.00	8.75
Old stock							
Idaho, russets[5, 6]	20.50	21.00	21.00	17.75	35.00	34.00	24.00
Minnesota-North Dakota, round reds[5, 6]	8.75	8.75	9.00	12.00	25.00	12.00	8.50

[1] 50-pound price doubled. [2] 2-inch up, washed. [3] 4-oz. minimum. [4] 2-inch minimum. [5] U.S. No. 1, Size A. [6] Street sales. F.o.b. prices are the simple averages of the midpoint of the range of daily prices.

SOURCE: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Weekly summary of terminal market prices.

Table 35.—Potatoes: Quarterly retail price index

Year	Quarter				Season average
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
	1967=100				
1977	185.1	232.3	219.8	178.6	203.9
1978	186.7	211.3	256.0	193.3	211.8
1979	195.4	207.6	212.1	197.9	203.2
1980	203.5	219.4	316.9	295.4	258.8
1981	346.7	392.3	373.0	287.8	350.0
1982	295.7	323.8	323.8	242.0	296.3
1983	239.3	281.9	333.0	313.2	291.8
1984	355.1				

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index.

Table 36.—Sweetpotatoes: Planted and prospective acreage

Area	Acreage			1984 as percentage of 1983
	1982	1983	Indicated 1984[1]	
	1,000 acres			*Percent*
Central Atlantic[2]	6.5	4.9	4.3	88
Lower Atlantic[3]	53.0	45.5	49.5	109
South Central[4]	46.0	43.6	43.3	99
California	9.2	8.8	9.0	102
United States	114.7	102.8	106.1	103

[1] Indicated as of February 1. [2] New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. [3] North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. [4] Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Prospective Plantings.

Table 37.—Sweetpotatoes: F.o.b. shipping point and terminal market prices

Location and variety	Unit	Week ended 1983 Feb. 7	 1983 Mar. 7	 1983 Apr. 11	 1984 Jan. 3	 1984 Feb. 6	 1984 Mar. 5	 1984 Apr. 9
		Dollars						
F.O.B. SHIPPING POINTS								
North Carolina	Crt., 50 lb.	4.25	4.00	10.50	4.63	12.75	12.75	—
S.W. Louisiana								
Porto Rico type U.S. No. 1, cured	Crt., 50 lb.	—	—	12.00	6.50	12.50	12.50	—
California, Garnet	Crt., 40 lb.	10.10	11.80	15.80	—	10.60	10.60	12.60

Location and variety	Unit	Tuesday nearest midmonth 1983 Feb. 15	 1983 Mar. 15	 1983 Apr. 12	 1984 Jan. 17	 1984 Feb. 14	 1984 Mar. 13	 1984 Apr. 16
		Dollars						
TERMINAL MARKETS								
New York								
Porto Rico, cured	Ctn., 50 lb.	6.00	5.50	12.50	13.50	15.50	15.50	5.50
Chicago								
Porto Rico, cured	Ctn., 50 lb.	7.00	8.00	13.50	14.50	16.00	17.50	6.75

SOURCE: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Weekly summary of shipping point and terminal market prices.

Table 38.—Mushrooms: Quarterly grower prices, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania[1]

Year and type	Quarter 1st	 2nd	 3rd	 4th	Season average[1]
	Cents per pound				
Fresh					
1981	67	69	70	62	67
1982	64	65	71	68	67
1983	70	70	73	76	72
Processed					
1981	63	57	53	46	55
1982	49	49	49	47	49
1983	61	58	64	70	63

[1] Number 1, clean-cut mushrooms (in bulk for repackaging as fresh mushrooms).

SOURCE: Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Table 39.—Processed mushrooms: U.S. production, stocks, sales, imports, and apparent consumption

	October-December 1982	 1983	Marketing year 1981/82	 1982/83
	1,000 pounds			
Beginning stocks[1]	19,900	10,337	28,751	27,253
Production[1]	21,871	23,592	98,341	83,141
Supply[1]	41,771	33,929	127,092	110,394
Ending stocks[1]	16,048	12,010	27,253	14,980
Sales[2]	31,716	29,417	113,815	118,850
Imports[2]	26,200	17,830	95,682	114,451
Apparent consumption[2]	57,812	47,212	209,057	233,011

[1] Canned mushrooms only. [2] Canned and frozen mushrooms.

SOURCE: U.S. International Trade Commission, Publication 1498.

Table 40.—Canned mushrooms: Imports, total and selected countries

Countries	July-June 1981-82	July-June 1982-83	July-Feb. 1982-83	July-Feb. 1983-84
	Million pounds			
China, People's Republic of	33.5	42.9	28.9	22.9
China, Republic of (Taiwan)	30.0	41.2	26.5	32.6
Hong Kong	21.4	16.8	8.9	9.4
Korea, Republic of	6.5	7.3	4.5	6.1
Other	3.5	5.2	2.6	9.6
Total	94.9	113.4	71.4	80.6

SOURCE: Bureau of the Census.

Table 41.—Dry edible beans: Planted and prospective acreage

State	Planted area 1982	 1983	Indicated 1984[1]	1984 as percentage of 1983
	1,000 acres			
California	238.0	141.0	180.0	128
Colorado	175.0	120.0	150.0	125
Idaho	143.0	90.0	145.0	161
Michigan	560.0	360.0	420.0	117
Nebraska	225.0	135.0	190.0	141
North Dakota	300.0	170.0	200.0	118
Other[2]	252.5	127.0	171.0	135
Total	1,893.5	1,143.0	1,456.0	127

[1] Growers' intentions as of February 1. [2] Includes Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, New York, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Prospective Plantings.

Table 43.—Dry edible peas and lentils: Grower prices

Crop	1983 Jan.	1983 Feb.	1983 Mar.	1984 Jan.	1984 Feb.	1984 Mar.
	Dollars per cwt					
Green peas	8.95	8.55	9.05	9.00	8.80	8.95
Yellow peas	8.00	7.75	7.95	7.70	7.75	7.50
Lentils	13.05	12.15	12.05	15.20	15.00	14.90

SOURCE: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Grain Market News, Denver.

Table 42.—Dry edible beans: U.S. quarterly and season average grower prices

Year	Quarter 1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Seasonal average[1]
	Dollars per cwt				
1977	14.87	16.93	15.50	22.90	20.20
1978	21.73	19.53	16.40	16.57	17.30
1979	17.30	18.73	20.73	21.50	22.80
1980	24.76	23.03	25.53	26.00	27.60
1981	28.60	34.20	28.33	23.17	21.00
1982	19.70	18.17	15.67	13.73	14.30
1983	12.06	14.83	21.87	23.90	23.40
1984	21.37				

[1] Season-average price of crop in indicated year.

SOURCE: Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Agricultural Prices.

Table 44.—Pulses: U.S. exports

Crop/Variety	Total seasonal[1] 1981/82	Total seasonal[1] 1982/83	Year to date[2] 1982/83	Year to date[2] 1983/84	1984 as percentage of 1983
	Million pounds				
Dry beans					
Navy	177.0	196.5	127.8	75.2	59
Great Northern	154.8	151.8	85.9	51.7	60
Pinto	345.8	31.5	16.3	19.6	120
Other	519.2	236.4	148.1	116.7	79
Total	1,196.8	616.2	378.1	363.2	70
Dry peas	237.7	307.5	133.9	148.2	111
Lentils	158.7	110.1	58.4	42.7	73
Total, pulses	1,593.2	1,033.8	570.4	454.1	80

[1] September-August crop year. [2] Through January.

SOURCE: Bureau of the Census.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

That's what a reader finds in the NATIONAL FOOD REVIEW. Articles written by leading food analysts in USDA's Economic Research Service make this quarterly magazine important reading for those with a special stake in the U.S. food system. And that includes just about everyone.

Written in clear, nontechnical language, NATIONAL FOOD REVIEW articles keep a wide range of readers—university economists, business executives, consumers, and hundreds of journalists who often base stories on NFR articles—informed of developments in food prices, product safety, nutrition programs, consumption patterns, food processing, food regulations, and other food-related topics.

The cost for NATIONAL FOOD REVIEW is $8.50 a year ($10.65 foreign addresses). Make checks payable to SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS.

To subscribe, send your check or money order to: NATIONAL FOOD REVIEW, SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS, U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20402.

*U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1984 0-420-932/ERS-2118

Reports of the Economic Research Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Outlook & Situation Reports

	Subscription Fee Domestic	Subscription Fee Foreign
☐ Agricultural Exports (4 issues)	$7.00	$8.75
☐ Cotton & Wool (4)	8.00	10.00
☐ Dairy (4)	8.00	10.00
☐ Feed (4)	8.50	10.65
☐ Fruit (4)	8.00	10.00
☐ Inputs (4)	8.50	10.65
☐ Livestock & Poultry (6)	15.00	18.75
☐ Oil Crops (4)	8.00	10.00
☐ Rice (2)	5.00	6.25
☐ Sugar & Sweetener (4)	8.00	10.00
☐ Tobacco (4)	8.00	10.00
☐ Vegetable (4)	8.00	10.00
☐ Wheat (4)	8.00	10.00
☐ World Agriculture (4)	9.00	11.25
☐ World Agriculture Regionals (11)	18.00	22.50

North America/Oceania, Latin America, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, USSR, Middle East and North Africa, Subsaharan Africa, East Asia, China, South Asia, Southeast Asia

Other Reports

	Subscription Fee Domestic	Subscription Fee Foreign
☐ Agricultural Economics Research (4)	$8.50	$10.65
☐ Agricultural Outlook (11)	31.00	38.75
☐ Economic Indicators of the Farm Sector (5)	15.00	18.75
☐ Farmline (11)	16.00	20.00
☐ Foreign Agricultural Trade of the U.S. (8) (6 issues plus 2 supplements.)	19.00	23.75
☐ Handbook of Agricultural Charts (1)	5.00	6.25
☐ National Food Review (4)	8.50	10.65

For single copy prices, call **(202) 783-3238**

Note: **ERS Abstracts,** issued periodically, provides descriptive information of current research reports and other publications and their purchase prices. To be placed on the free mailing list for **ERS Abstracts,** and for additional details about ordering publications, please contact: Information Division, Room 4309-S, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. (202) 447-7305 and 447-8590.

HOW TO ORDER

***Check appropriate box.**

***Calculate the total charges for subscriptions and enter below.**

***If your address is outside the United States, use "foreign" price.**

***Make check or money order payable to the Superintendent of Documents.**

***Allow 6 weeks for processing.**

***For faster service or foreign air mail information, call (202) 783-3238.**

***Mail this entire form to: Superintendent of Documents**
Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

Enclosed is $ ________ ☐ check, ☐ money order, or charge to my Deposit Account No.

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐–☐

Order No. ____________

MasterCard and VISA accepted.

Credit Card Orders Only

Total charges $ ________

Fill in the boxes below.

Credit Card No. ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Expiration Date Month/Year ☐☐☐☐

Customer's Telephone No.'s

Area Code | Home | Area Code | Office

Charge orders may be telephoned to the GPO order desk at (202)783-3238 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday-Friday (except holidays).

Company or Personal Name

Additional address/attention line

Street address

City | State | ZIP Code

(or Country)

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

For Office Use Only

Quantity		Charges
______	Publications	______
______	Subscriptions	______
	Special Shipping Charges	______
	International Handling	______
	Special Charges	______
	OPNR	______
______	UPNS	
______	Balance Due	
______	Discount	
______	Refund	

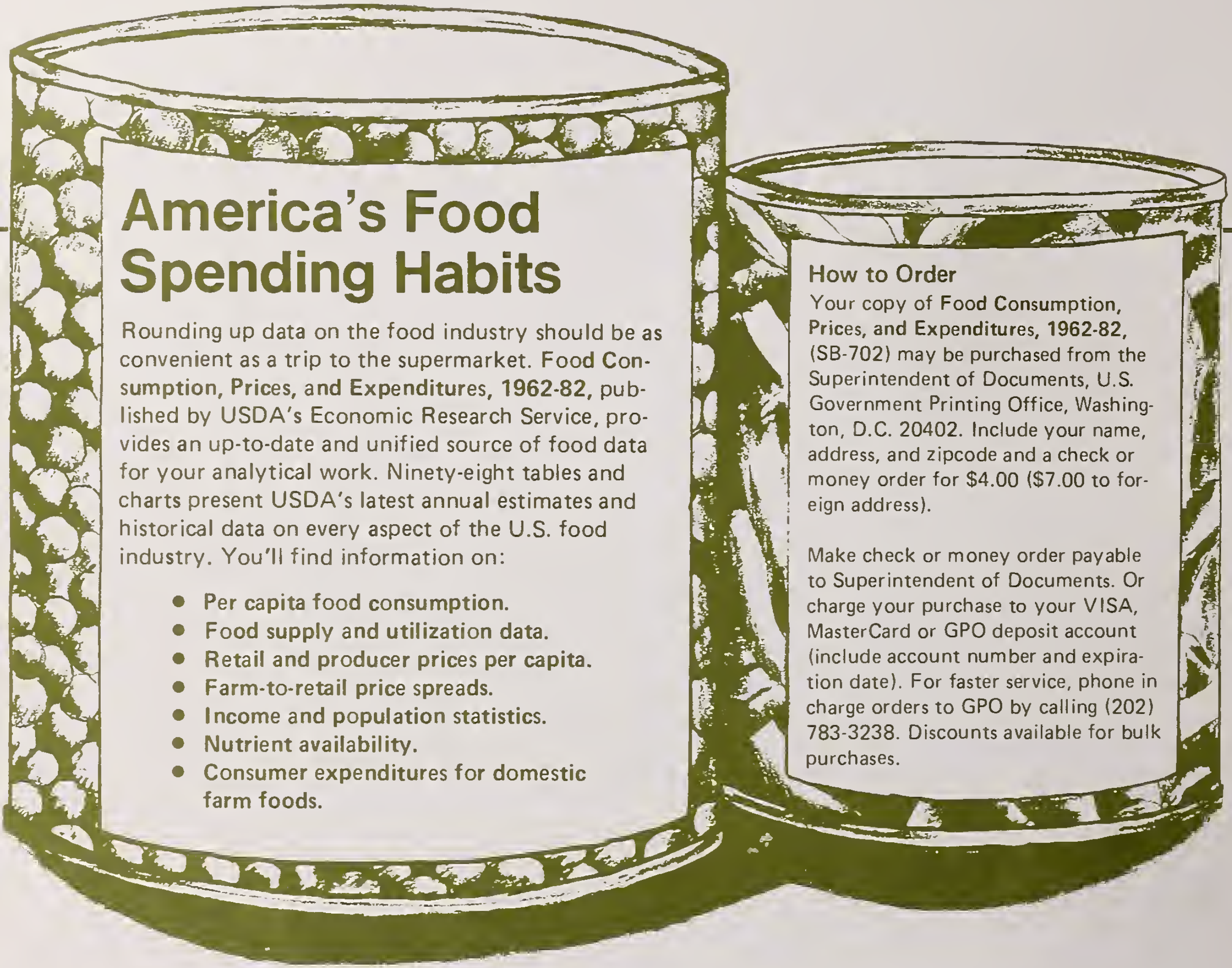
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

Moving? To change your address send this sheet with label intact, showing new address, to EMS Information, Rm.400-GHI, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Postage and Fees Paid
United States
Department of Agriculture
AGR-101

FIRST CLASS



America's Food Spending Habits

Rounding up data on the food industry should be as convenient as a trip to the supermarket. **Food Consumption, Prices, and Expenditures, 1962-82,** published by USDA's Economic Research Service, provides an up-to-date and unified source of food data for your analytical work. Ninety-eight tables and charts present USDA's latest annual estimates and historical data on every aspect of the U.S. food industry. You'll find information on:

- Per capita food consumption.
- Food supply and utilization data.
- Retail and producer prices per capita.
- Farm-to-retail price spreads.
- Income and population statistics.
- Nutrient availability.
- Consumer expenditures for domestic farm foods.

How to Order

Your copy of **Food Consumption, Prices, and Expenditures, 1962-82,** (SB-702) may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Include your name, address, and zipcode and a check or money order for $4.00 ($7.00 to foreign address).

Make check or money order payable to Superintendent of Documents. Or charge your purchase to your VISA, MasterCard or GPO deposit account (include account number and expiration date). For faster service, phone in charge orders to GPO by calling (202) 783-3238. Discounts available for bulk purchases.